GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1815
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2002
DEEP WATER DRILLING CAPBILITY OF ONGC
MOHAN RAWALE

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the deep water drilling capability of ONGC;

(b) whether the present capability is sufficient to undertake jobs obtained under NELP; and

(c) if so, the specific steps proposed to be taken by ONGC to enhance their capability in deep water drilling?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar)

(a) to (c): Drillship, Sagar Vijay, of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) is at present capable of drilling in water depths upto 900 metre. The following steps have been taken by ONGC to drill in water depths beyond 900 metre:-

(i) Upgradation of Sagar Vijay to drill in water depth upto 1000 metre.

(ii) Hiring suitable deep water rigs from the market for undertaking drilling in deep waters beyond 1000 metre water depth, depending upon the work programme of ONGC.

(iii) Initiation of the action for identifying and short-listing of companies to assist ONGC in ultra-deep water drilling beyond 1000 metre water depth.